

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An embroidery machine with a cap bill support device, the machine including a hat hoop
2 base frame, the device comprising:
3 a bill hook capable of physical attachment to said cap bill; and
4 a base support secured to said hat hoop base frame, said base frame receiving said bill
5 hook, thereby offering removable support of said cap bill when positioned adjacent to
6 said hat hoop base frame.
- 1 2. A device as in claim 1, wherein said hook is pivotally mounted to said base support.
- 1 3. A device as in claim 1, wherein said hook includes a substantially "L" shaped arm
2 including a foot enabling attachment to said cap bill.
- 1 4. A device as in claim 1, wherein said hook includes a clamp that is releaseably secured to
2 said cap bill.
- 1 5. A device as in claim 4, wherein said hook further includes an arm that is received by said
2 base support.
- 1 6. A device as in claim 5, wherein said arm is received by a lip hook on said base support.

1 7. A device as in claim 6, wherein said base support is comprised of a substantially flat plate
2 including a lip hook.

1 8. A device as in claim 7, wherein said substantially flat plate includes at least one mounting
2 hole, thereby enabling mounting of said substantially flat plate to a peripheral flange on
3 said hat hoop base frame.

1 9. A device as in claim 7, wherein said substantially flat plate is mounted adjacent to a visor
2 bracket mounted on said hat hoop base frame.

1 10. A device as in claim 5, wherein said arm is received by a lip hook on a visor bracket, the
2 visor bracket being mounted to said hat hoop base frame.

1 11. An embroidery machine of the type that is used in the embroidery of headgear and other
2 products that have a protrusion such as a cap bill, the machine also including a hat hoop
3 base frame and a hat rack, the improvement comprising:

4 a bill hook capable of physical attachment to said cap bill; and

5 a base support secured to said hat hoop base frame, said base frame receiving said
6 bill hook, thereby offering removable support of said cap bill when positioned
7 adjacent to said hat hoop base frame.

1 12. A machine as in claim 11, wherein said hook is pivotally mounted to said base support.

1 13. A machine as in claim 11, wherein said hook includes a substantially "L" shaped arm
2 including a foot enabling attachment to said cap bill.

1 14. A machine as in claim 11, wherein said hook includes a clamp that is releaseably secured
2 to said cap bill.

1 15. A machine as in claim 14, wherein said hook further includes an arm that is received by
2 said base support.

1 16. A machine as in claim 15, wherein said arm is received by a lip hook on said base
2 support.

1 17. A machine as in claim 16, wherein said base support is comprised of a substantially flat
2 plate including a lip hook.

1 18. A machine as in claim 17, wherein said substantially flat plate includes at least one
2 mounting hole, thereby enabling mounting of said substantially flat plate to a peripheral
3 flange on said hat hoop base frame.

1 19. A machine as in claim 17, wherein said substantially flat plate is mounted adjacent to a

2 visor bracket mounted on said hat hoop base frame.

1 20. A method of supporting a cap bill to facilitate the embroidery of a cap including the steps
2 of:

3 providing an embroidery device including:

4 a bill hook capable of physical attachment to said cap bill; and

5 a base support secured to said hat hoop base frame, said base frame receiving said bill
6 hook;

7 positioning a cap in said embroidery device adjacent to said hat hoop base frame;

8 displacing a portion of said cap bill toward said base support;

9 attaching said bill hook to said cap bill with said bill hook supported by said base support,
10 thus maintaining said cap bill in a displaced orientation.